

Date January 6, 2006

Reply to Election Requirement dated December 6, 2005

REMARKS

Entry of this Communication in response to the Restriction Requirement dated December 6, 2005 is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has required restrictions between Group I, including claims 1 – 12 drawn to an apparatus, and Group II, including claims 13 – 18 drawn to a method of making. The Examiner contends that the inventions are distinct because in the instant case the product as claimed could be made by a materially different process, such as machining the drain seal or some molding process other than shot molding.

As required, Applicant elects, with traverse, Group I, including claims 1 – 12 and new claims 20, 21, and 22.

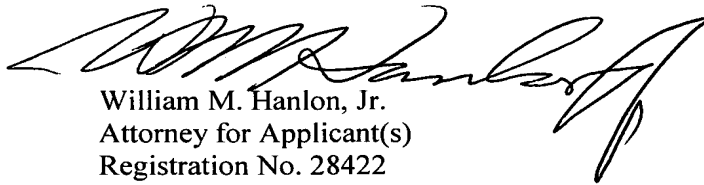
The election is made with traverse on the grounds that claims 1 and 13, by the Amendment submitted herewith, are identical in scope such that there is no basis for the Examiner's contention that the product as claimed could be made by a materially different process.

Further, claim 22 has been added as a linking claim, thereby requiring examination of all of the apparatus and method claims.

Accordingly, for these reasons, it is respectfully requested that the election be withdrawn and all of the pending claims, including new claims 19 – 22 added herein, be examined.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG, BASILE, HANLON, MacFARLANE,
WOOD & HELMHOLDT, P.C.



William M. Hanlon, Jr.
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 28422
(248) 649-3333

3001 West Big Beaver Rd., Suite 624

Troy, Michigan 48084-3107

Dated: January 6, 2006

WMH/dge